

**Amendments to the claims:**

1. (currently amended) A manually operated electric machine tool for a disk-shaped rotating tool (18), comprising:

having a machine housing (11), wherein from which a drive spindle (12) for the tool (18) protrudes from the machine housing (11)[[.]]:

having a guard (20) that is detachably connected to the machine housing (11) and is designed to at least partially cover the tool (18), wherein said which guard has a clamp (23) with a clamping element (24)[[.]] and

having a hollow cylindrical collar (15), which wherein said collar is provided on the machine housing (11) and is coaxial to the drive spindle (12), the clamp (23) permitting the guard (20) to be mounted onto the this collar and fixed ~~it~~ in relation to the collar it,

wherein the clamp (23) is secured to the collar (15) in a rotating fashion and a manually releasable locking mechanism between the clamp (23) and the collar (15) is designed so as to permit the guard (20) to be locked in a number of definite relative rotational ~~rotation~~ positions in relation to the collar (15),

wherein the manually releasable locking mechanism has a toothed section (34) provided on the collar (15) and a ratchet (37) that is provided on the clamp

(23) and is pressed into the toothed section (34) by means of spring force, and

wherein the ratchet (37) is embodied on a spring-loaded hand lever (36) that is provided on the outside of the clamp (23) and is able to pivot around a pivot axis (361) parallel to a clamp axis.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The manually operated electric machine tool as recited in claim 1 2, wherein the toothed section (34) has sawtooth-shaped teeth (35) with steeply sloped tooth flanks (351) and shallowly sloped tooth backs (352)[[:]], and wherein the teeth (35) are situated one after another so that the tooth flanks (351) are oriented in a direction counter to a the rotation direction (19) of the tool (18).

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The manually operated electric machine tool as recited in claim 1 2, wherein the ratchet (37) is embodied at the front end of a spring tab (38) oriented in the rotation direction (19) of the tool (18)[[:]], wherein the spring tab (38) is affixed to the clamp (23) and is ~~preferably~~ cut out from the spring steel plate from which the clamp (23) is manufactured.

6. (currently amended) The manually operated electric machine tool as recited in claim 1 2, wherein a circumferential groove/spring connection is produced between the clamp (23) and collar (15) in order to rotationally secure the clamp (23) to the collar (15).

7. (currently amended) The manually operated electric machine tool as recited in claim 6, wherein the groove/spring connection has at least one annular groove (33) that is provided in an ~~let into the~~ outer surface of the collar (15) and at least one cam (27 – 29) that protrudes radially from an ~~the~~ inner surface of the clamp (23) and engages in the annular groove (33)~~[[.]], and~~ wherein the toothed section (34) provided at a ~~the~~ groove bottom of the annular groove (33) preferably extends over a circumference ~~rotation angle of the annular~~ groove of 180°.

8. (currently amended) The manually operated electric machine tool as recited in claim 7, wherein ~~the~~ an outer circumference of the collar (15) has at least one axial groove (30 – 32) ~~let into it~~ that runs into the annular groove (33) at one end and at the other end, opens out at the free end surface of the collar (15) and is associated with the at least one cam (27 – 29) on the clamp (23).

9. (previously presented) The manually operated electric machine tool as recited in claim 1, wherein the clamp (23) is fastened to a semicircular, axially protruding flange (22) of the guard (20) by being molded onto it, being welded to it, or by means of screws or rivets.

10. (currently amended) A guard for a manually operated electric machine tool, comprising:

which has a collar (15) that encompasses a drive spindle (12) for a disk-shaped rotating tool (18)[[.]]:

having a clamp (23) designed to slide onto the collar (15); and

having a clamping element (24) that is provided on the clamp (23) and is for affixing the clamp (23) to the collar (15),

wherein the clamp (23) is provided with a locking element for detachably locking the guard (20) in discrete relative rotational ~~rotation~~ positions in relation to the collar (15), and

wherein the clamp (23) has at least one cam (27 – 29) protruding radially from an inner surface, wherein the at least one cam is designed to engage in an annular groove (33) provided in the collar (15) of the manually operated electric machine tool.

11. (original) The guard as recited in claim 10, wherein the locking element is a ratchet (37) that is designed to engage in a spring-loaded fashion with teeth (34) on the collar (15).

12. (currently amended) The guard as recited in claim 11, wherein the ratchet (37) is embodied on a spring-loaded hand lever (36) that is provided on the an outside of the clamp (23) and is able to pivot around a pivot axis (361) parallel to a the clamp axis.

13. (currently amended) The guard as recited in claim 11, wherein the ratchet (37) is fastened to one end of a spring tab (38) attached to the clamp (23) and is preferably cut out from the spring steel from which the clamp (23) is manufactured.

14. (canceled)